

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 06945 261235Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 L-03 /050 W
-----080359 261238Z /50

O 261218Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1756

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 6945

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, GR, US
SUBJECT: U.S.-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS: FINAL STEPS

REF: STATE 173705

1. JUDGING FROM REFTEL THERE IS APPARENTLY A MISUNDERSTANDING OVER WHY I CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF OUR SMALL THREE-MAN WORKING GROUP TEAM UNTIL THE DCA PACKAGE IS INITIALED ON JULY 28. IT IS NOT "MERELY TO CONFIRM PREVIOUSLY-AGREED TEXTS" BUT TO BE PREPARED TO COUNTER, ON THE SPOT, ANY LAST MINUTE EFFORT BY THE GREEKS TO REOPEN DEFENSE-RELATED POLICY, OPERATIONAL OR LEGAL ISSUES. (THE GREEKS HAVE CALLED FOR ANOTHER WORKING GROUP MEETING LATE TODAY AND, ALTHOUGH I HOPE TO AVOID IT, I CANNOT RULE OUT A SHORT-NOTICE FINAL MEETING TOMORROW.)

2. THE PROVEN ABILITY OF COLONELS MAJORS AND KEENAN IN DEALING FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE GREEKS IS THUS STILL NEEDED, AND I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IMPRUDENT TO BREAK UP THIS WINNING TEAM IN THE ELEVENTH HOUR FOR THE SAKE OF A FEW DOLLARS IN TDY FUNDS. FURTHERMORE, FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL AND CEREMONIAL REASONS BOTH SHOULD BE PRESENT--ALONG WITH THEIR GREEK COUNTERPARTS--DURING THE FORMAL INITIALING SESSION.

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3. I DO NOT INTEND TO HOLD MAJORS OR KEENAN ANY LONGER THAN I CONSIDER ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. KEENAN WILL DEPART FOR WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY AFTER INITIALING, HOPEFULLY THE SAME AFTERNOON. MAJORS, AT REQUEST OF DEPUTY CINCEUR GENERAL HUYSER, WILL STOP AT HQ EUCOM TO BRIEF HIM ON OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS; HE EXPECTS TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON ON SATURDAY, JULY 30.
MILLS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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